

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An ID assigning method, comprising:

recording, in ~~an~~ a navigation apparatus, content-updated map data or a program  
~~which that is only~~ made usable by recording a release key in the apparatus from an  
information center, the navigation apparatus capable of performing route guidance based on  
recorded map data;

recording, in the navigation apparatus, ID setting instructions;

executing the ID setting instructions after the updated map data or program is  
recorded;

\_\_\_\_\_, thereby assigning an a unique ID to the navigation apparatus, the unique ID  
necessary to obtain update map data or a program in a navigation apparatus that performs  
route guidance based on recorded map data; and

\_\_\_\_\_, creating the ID unique to each apparatus based on present navigation apparatus  
information, the ID usable to acquire the release key from the information center; and

\_\_\_\_\_, sending the unique ID to the information center; and

\_\_\_\_\_, receiving the release key from the communication center.

2. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the ID is created based on a randomly acquired numeric value.

3. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the ID is created based on data representing a date and time.

4. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the ID is created based on data representing a present position.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the ID is created based on a parameter related to the apparatus.
6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the parameter related to the apparatus is a registered home location of the apparatus.
7. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 5, wherein the parameter related to the apparatus is a number of registered locations stored in the apparatus.
8. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 5, wherein the parameter related to the apparatus is a distance coefficient.
9. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 5, wherein the parameter related to the apparatus is a travel distance of a vehicle related to the apparatus.
10. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 5, wherein the parameter related to the apparatus is a travel time of a vehicle related to the apparatus.
11. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 5, wherein the parameter related to the apparatus is a location of a found facility.
12. (Currently Amended) An ID assigning method, comprising:
  - recording, in ~~an~~ a navigation apparatus, updated map data or a program that is only made usable by a release key from an information center. the navigation apparatus capable of performing route guidance based on recorded map data;
  - recording ID setting instructions for creating an ID unique to ~~each~~ the navigation apparatus based on present navigation apparatus information, the unique ID usable to acquire the release key from the information center.;
  - determining a date and time;
  - determining a present position;
  - executing the ID setting instructions after the updated map data or program is recorded;

\_\_\_\_\_, thereby assigning the unique ID to the navigation apparatus, the unique ID necessary to obtain a release key necessary to update map data or a program in a navigation apparatus that performs route guidance based on recorded map data, the unique ID created;  
and

\_\_\_\_\_, creating the ID based on data representing the date and time, and data representing the present position of the navigation apparatus;

\_\_\_\_\_, sending the unique ID to the information center; and

\_\_\_\_\_, receiving the release key from the communication center.

13-14. (Canceled)

15. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a set of program instructions executable on a data processing device and usable for assigning an ID to ~~an a~~ navigation apparatus, the set of program instructions comprising:

instructions for recording, in ~~an a~~ navigation apparatus, ~~content updated map data or a program which that is only made usable by recording a release key in the apparatus~~ from an information center, the navigation apparatus capable of performing route guidance based on recorded map data;

instructions for recording, in the navigation apparatus, ID setting instructions;

instructions for executing the ID setting instructions; after the updated map data or program is recorded, the ID setting instructions

\_\_\_\_\_, instructions for assigning an a unique ID to the navigation apparatus, the unique ID necessary to obtain update map data or a program in a navigation apparatus that performs route guidance based on recorded map data; and

\_\_\_\_\_, instructions for creating the ID unique to each apparatus based on present navigation apparatus information, the ID usable to acquire the release key from the information center; and

instructions for sending the unique ID to the information center; and

instructions for receiving the release key from the communication center.

16. (Currently Amended) An ID assigning apparatus, comprising

means for recording, in ~~an~~ a navigation apparatus, content updated map data or  
a program which that is only made usable by recording a release key in the apparatus from an  
information center, the navigation apparatus capable of performing route guidance based on  
recorded map data;

means for recording, in the navigation apparatus, ID setting instructions;

means for executing the ID setting instructions; after the updated map data or  
program is recorded, thereby

~~means for assigning an a unique ID to the navigation apparatus, the unique ID~~  
~~necessary to obtain update map data or a program in a navigation apparatus that performs~~  
~~route guidance based on recorded map data; and~~

~~means for creating the ID unique to each apparatus based on present~~  
~~navigation apparatus information, the ID usable to acquire the release key from the~~  
information center; and

means for sending the unique ID to the information center; and

means for receiving the release key from the communication center.